

MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 12, 1931

The ninth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1931 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building, February 12, 1931. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Winter,
Mr. Cross,
Mr. Weinman,
Mr. Mauran,
and Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held January 6, 1931, were approved.

2. UNITED MASONIC TEMPLE, DEAN TRACT: Under date of February 4, 1931, Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett submitted the following letter with design for a change in the scheme of development of the Dean Tract so as to leave a triangular lot available for income-producing purposes and allow for a curved street to cut through between that plot and the Dean Tract itself from Florida Avenue to Connecticut Avenue, with space for a memorial wall on the side of the Dean Tract:

Dear Mr. Moore:

"Following our conversation when I saw you on my last visit to Washington, I am enclosing four photostats.

"The first shows the property with contours and Temple Unit No. 1 in its proposed location. The second shows the suggested curved street cut through, retaining the attractive hill feature of the site, providing space for a memorial wall and leaving a triangular lot available for income-producing purposes. This land also shows a proposed division between the rear Temple lot and the park lot, the areas of each parcel being indicated on the map.

"The third sheet is a landscape plot plan indicating the Temple location, drives and pathways, open-air theatre and treatment along memorial wall, and a suggested income-producing building on the triangular site.

"Sheet No. 4 gives a perspective view of the proposed development, including all the above named features.

"I am sending these in advance of the meeting of your Commission on Thursday, the twelfth, as you suggested that you would like to have copies and that you might want to present them at that meeting. I told Mr. Caemmerer that I would attend the meeting if necessary but that I should prefer not to make a trip to Washington at that time. I think these maps contain all the necessary information. If there is anything further required, will you kindly let me know and I shall endeavor to supply the information."

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) Harvey Wiley Corbett.

The Commission inspected the designs and commended them. The Commission felt that this United Masonic Temple project as planned would be a feature that would be of real interest in the National Capital and that to preserve at least part of the Dean Tract for park purposes is much to be desired as there is no park now in the immediate locality at Connecticut and Florida Avenues.

The Commission approved the design submitted. It is understood Mr. Corbett will take up the matter further with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia in the matter of street lay-out as proposed. (Exhibit A)

3. ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL, MONTANA: Under date of January 19, the following letter was received from Mr. L. F. Kneipp, Acting Chief of the Forest Service, recommending an obelisk for the Roosevelt Memorial to be erected at Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana:

Dear Mr. Moore:

"Reference is made to your letter of September 19, addressed to Major Stuart and your letter of January 9 addressed to Congressman Leavitt in regard to the proposed Roosevelt Memorial:

"Since H. R. 16078 recently introduced by Congressman Leavitt does not provide for any increase over the \$25,000, Congressman Leavitt expressed a preference to the erection of an obelisk in the center of an ellipse of grass with a divided highway upon each side. The obelisk should be of granite and composed of as few pieces as possible. Provision should be made for a drinking fountain and for the proper landscaping of the entire ellipse.

"It would be appreciated if you would consider at your next meeting this form of a memorial and inform me if it secures your approval. Steps can then be taken to have the architects prepare the necessary plans and provide for arrangements for the necessary work as soon as the funds are made available by the passage of this bill.

"The photostat loaned by Mr. Caemmerer is herewith returned."

Very truly yours,
(Signed) L. F. Kneipp,
Acting Forester.

A letter was also received from the architects (Exhibit B).

The Commission inspected the design, which had been prepared by the architects, Messrs. Kimball, Steele, and Sandham, of Omaha. After consideration the Commission approved the erection of an obelisk, but recommended that this design be given further study as the obelisk is not well proportioned. Mr. Moore called attention to the granite obelisk, 42 feet high, erected at Sault Ste. Marie to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's canal. The proportions of this obelisk are those of the Egyptian obelisk in Central Park in New York City.

The Commission gave consideration also to the landscape treatment and did not favor the idea of having an ellipse as had been proposed. The Commission recommended a circle with the obelisk in the center, with suitable

planting. Thus travelers would be brought up to view the monument rather than rushing past it. The question of drinking fountain at the site was regarded incidental and could be attended to later. The Forest Service was requested to inform the Commission as to the material that would be available for the obelisk. (Exhibit B-1).

4. STATUE FOR THE WORLD WAR MEMORIAL AT MONTFAUCON: The American Battle Monuments Commission through Mr. James E. Mangum, Executive Assistant, submitted to the Commission a photograph of Mr. Weinman's sketch model for the figure to surmount the World War Memorial at Montfaucon, France, with a letter as follows:

February 11, 1931.

Gentlemen:

"We are transmitting herewith, for your consideration, seven photographs of a sketch model made by Mr. A. A. Weinman for a statue destined to surmount the memorial being erected by the American Battle Monuments Commission at Montfaucon, France. A photograph of the architect's drawing of the memorial in question is also enclosed.

"It would be appreciated if you would give us any comments or suggestions that you deem appropriate regarding this preliminary sketch model.

"By direction of the Commission:"

(Signed) X. H. Price,
Major, Corps of Engineers,
Secretary.

Mr. Weinman said he undertook the work before he was appointed a member of the Commission of Fine Arts and wished to withdraw during the consideration of the matter. Mr. Weinman submitted photographs of the model, showing the figure on the column, which he said Mr. Pope has approved. These were inspected by the Commission. The column will be 180 feet high and the figure from 19 to 20 feet high.

Mr. Weinman thereupon withdrew and the Commission proceeded to consider the photographs. Mr. Mangum said the position of the right arm has been criticized as there is nothing for it to rest upon. Mr. Cross did not believe that this objection holds true as the arm in reality is resting on the body. Mr. Moore added that it is the position of the arms which carries out the spirit of the design. Mr. Mangum stated that Mr. Pope had approved the model and the statement regarding the arm was not to be considered adverse criticism.

The Commission approved the model according to the photograph submitted, and the American Battle Monuments Commission was informed accordingly. (Exhibit C)

5. HYDRAULIC LABORATORY, BUREAU OF STANDARDS: Under date of February 9, the following letter was received from Dr. George K. Burgess, Director of the Bureau of Standards, as to the submission of a design for the hydraulic laboratory:

Gentlemen:

"The Bureau is submitting through Mr. W. I. Deming, 808 17th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., a design of the projected hydraulic laboratory, for which it is highly desirable to let the contract at the earliest possible moment.

"Mr. Deming will represent the Bureau in this matter, and will be glad to appear before you at your earliest convenience."

Yours very truly,

(Signed) George K. Burgess, Director.

Mr. Deming appeared before the Commission with the plans and the Commission inspected them. The building is to be erected on the south slope of the Bureau of Standards grounds, facing Tilden Street. Mr. Deming said that the hydraulic engineers had laid out the scheme, which left him with nothing to do but to put a shell around it. The laboratory is to be a long open room; at one end there will be a supply tank of water and at the other a receiving basin, with a concrete flume and a returning channel to connect the two. The experiments in hydraulics are to be conducted between the two channels. The offices of the laboratory will be in the three-storied building.

Mr. Cross and Mr. Mauran gave special attention to the design, which, after consideration, was approved with the suggestion to Mr. Deming that the entrance

on Tilden Street be not emphasized but carried right through in the brick without change in color. Dr. Burgess was informed accordingly. (Exhibit D)

6. JANE A. DELANO MEMORIAL: By letter, dated February 2, 1931, Miss Adda Eldredge, Chairman of the Delano Memorial Committee, advised that the American Nurses Association had decided to accept Dr. Tait McKenzie for the sculptor for the Jane A. Delano Memorial to be erected on the grounds of the Red Cross in Washington.

The sketch submitted by Dr. McKenzie showed a central stele with flanking panels to represent pictorially the Red Cross Nurses during peace and war. This type of memorial was considered satisfactory to the Commission. Mr. Weinman made certain suggestions as to the treatment of the figures--to bring them down in order to allow more clear space above them. Mr. Weinman did not altogether favor relief on the back of a seat, but Mr. Cross called attention to the Farragut Monument in New York City, which has beautiful sculptural relief by Saint-Gaudens on the back of the seat.

The Commission recommended that Dr. McKenzie now consult with the architects, Trowbridge and Livingston, and the landscape architect, as to the memorial project and determine as to the exact location of the memorial in connection with which a landscape plan should be prepared. The memorial is to be erected soon after the completion of the new Red Cross office building to be built on the west side of the Red Cross grounds facing 18th Street.

The Commission requested that a scale drawing of the memorial showing the details proposed be submitted at a future meeting of the Commission. The question of a reflecting pool is one that can be considered when the landscape plan is prepared.

A report, approving the selection of Dr. McKenzie as the sculptor for the Jane A. Delano Memorial, was sent to Miss Eldredge. (Exhibit E)

7. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WORLD WAR MEMORIAL BANDSTAND: Under date of February 10, 1931, the following letter was received from Mr. Frederick H. Brooke, Architect, of the District of Columbia World War Memorial, suggesting a change in the design to provide adequate space for the inscription:

Dear Mr. Moore:

"I have just learned that you are out of the city and consequently must put before you, briefly, by letter a word or two about the revised design for the District of Columbia Memorial.

"It was first proposed to inscribe the six hundred names of the District War Dead on the inside of the dome. That plan has been abandoned and I have been in consultation with Messrs. Cross and Morris, as to a better place for the names. The enclosed photograph shows the Memorial with a base changed to accommodate the names. The proposed base would be about four feet high and the names would range from 25 in. to 41 in. from the ground. With the exception of this change in the base, the Memorial follows in every respect the design approved May 21, 1925, by the Fine Arts Commission.

"I shall bring to your meeting on Thursday the former drawing, stamped with the approval of your Commission, and new drawings, showing the proposed change. If necessary, the model can also be put before the Commission."

Yours very sincerely,
(Signed) Frederick H. Brooke.

Mr. Brooke said that the design was submitted to the Commission in 1925, and in the meantime they have been gathering funds for the memorial, which is now about to be erected and is to be completed by 1932 for the George Washington Bicentennial.

The Commission considered the matter with Mr. Brooke and approved the suggestion that the names of the District of Columbia soldiers who lost their lives in the World War be placed on the base of the memorial bandstand. The question of dedicatory inscriptions to flank both sides of the steps and the insignia of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps will be considered in connection

with the placing of the names. Mr. Brooke thought the dedicatory inscriptions should be in raised letters in slightly sunken panels while the names could be incised in the marble. Mr. Weinman suggested the "u" cut letter instead of the "v" cut letter for the names as the former gives a deeper shadow and consequently greater visibility. Sand blasting was suggested for cutting the letters as this gives a "u" cut and is comparatively inexpensive.

Mr. Winter asked what was going to be done with the inside of the dome. Mr. Brooke said that he had talked with Dr. Paul R. Heyl of the Acoustical Division of the Bureau of Standards, who has said that a shallow dome is far better if the audience is away from the bandstand. Mr. Brooke said that most bandmasters like a marble floor so that the sound in the bandstand may be distinct, though a marble floor is not so good acoustically for the audience. He then read a letter from Mr. John Phillip Sousa, in which Sousa said that the most successful bandstands are somewhat in the shape of the one which Mr. Brooke had designed, as for example, the bandstand at the Buffalo Exposition. Mr. Mauran remarked that Sousa would be as good an authority as any one. Mr. Brooke referred to the Boston Commons bandstand and said that the authorities there advise not to have a flat ceiling. Mr. Carl Engel, Chief of the Music Division of the Library of Congress, had been consulted regarding this bandstand but had no particular objections to make to this design.

A report was sent to Mr. Brooke, approving the change suggested in the design. (Exhibit F)

The Commission later in the day inspected the site for the bandstand in Potomac Park south of the Reflecting Basin, and considered with Mr. Irving W. Payne, landscape architect of the office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, the question of taking out some of the trees and clearing the space so that the bandstand will have an appropriate setting.

8. LEIF ERICSSON STATUE: Mr. Weinman submitted photographs with the working model for the design of the pedestal for the Leif Ericsson statue, which is being executed by Mr. A. Stirling Calder, Sculptor. Mr. Weinman said that he had inspected the model, which has been made on the scale of about 3 inches to the foot and that he regarded the work very well done. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Weinman, the Commission approved the model. (Exhibit G)

9. ARMILLARY SPHERE, MERIDIAN HILL PARK: Mr. Moore submitted a design made by Mr. C. Paul Jennewein, Sculptor, of the Armillary Sphere to be erected in the lower garden of Meridian Hill Park. Mr. Moore said that the donor of the sphere, Miss Bertha Noyes, of this city, is pleased with the design. Mr. Weinman inspected the design and said he regarded it very satisfactory. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Weinman, the Commission approved the design. (Exhibit H)

10. GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD STATUE: The Commission gave consideration to the question of selection of sculptors to enter a competition by the submission of photographs for the General Artemas Ward Statue. Mr. Weinman prepared a list of sculptors, as follows:

Charles Eugene Tefft,
R. F. D. No. 3,
Guilford, Maine.

Leonard Crunelle,
6016 Ingleside Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Albin Polasek,
4 East Ohio Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Maxwell Miller,
1335 Greenmount Avenue,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Victor S. Holm,
School of Fine Arts,
Washington University,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Wheeler Williams,
~~of Yale Club,~~ 9-E 59th St
New York, N. Y.

Berthold Nebel,
Bible House,
New York, N. Y.

Daniel L. Rumsey,
133 Chapin Parkway,
Buffalo, New York.

Edmond Amateis,
15 West 29th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Walker Hancock,
207 East 17th Street,
New York, N. Y.

The Commission approved the list and a letter was sent to each of the sculptors inviting them to enter this competition. (Exhibit I) Mr. Weinman suggested that three of the sculptors named in this list be invited to prepare competitive models for the entire monument, that the three designers should receive an honorarium of \$500 each, said amount to be deducted from the compensation the winner of the competition would receive. The Commission endorsed this suggestion. Mr. Moore said he thought that the authorities of Harvard University, who have the erection of the memorial in charge, would be agreeable to this.

11. PRESIDENT TAFT MEMORIAL: Under date of February 9, Mr. Fraser submitted a letter with a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Robert A. Taft (Exhibit J), concerning the proposed monument to President Taft in Arlington National Cemetery, as follows:

My dear Mr. Moore:

"I am sending under separate cover an enlarged photograph of the Taft sketch that we looked at the other day. I have also received estimates on the granite cutting. The monument will cost \$10,000 including my work, the architect's work and granite carving, setting in place, in fact, everything complete, the granite to be honed Stony Creek.

"I am sending the estimate on to Mr. Robert Taft, and will wait to hear what he has to say about it."

Sincerely,
(Signed) J. E. Fraser.

The design shows a stele about 20 feet high to be done in Stony Creek granite and to cost \$10,000. It is similar to the Whistler Stele at West Point. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Weinman, the Commission approved the design.

12. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE SCULPTURE: Mr. Fraser submitted a copy of a letter which he had sent to Mr. Kendall, concerning his sculptural group

at the entrance of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, as follows:

February 9, 1931.

My dear Mr. Kendall:

"I am much disturbed over the difficulty we are encountering with the Bridge groups. After carefully considering what would happen with the reduction you suggested of my composition, I find that the figures on each side of the horses will be 3 ft. shorter than Friedlander's, which strikes me as being a discrepancy far too great. When you asked me to make this reduction, had you taken into consideration the fact that I had already reduced my groups over a foot in height and 2 ft. in width since all the groups were photographed together at the Fine Arts Galleries? That had already made a great difference.

"It occurs to me that we could complete the pedestals in granite, practically the same size as Friedlander's, after which enlarged photographs of my models could be put in place on the finished pedestals, and very likely the same photograph that was used of Friedlander's groups could be resurrected and put on his pedestals. We could then make a definite decision that would determine the size. I think this is the sure way of arriving at the best solution of this difficult problem, and, if there is to be a change eventually, I could fit the base of my groups by extending or reducing the plinth, or at any rate, make the adjustment at that point.

"I spent a day in Washington last week very carefully studying the situation, and I have come to this conclusion. No time would be lost because the groups will necessarily have to come up to half size before the final size needs to be settled.

"I hope this meets with your approval as it seems to me the simplest solution."

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Moore said with reference to the wings of Pegasus that he liked the model with the high curved wings. Mr. Weinman thought that with the wings too large and too spread out the whole sculptural group would be given a wobbly effect and that as it is now it looks very fine and will also look well on the pedestal. The Commission decided to await a reply from Mr. Kendall in

regard to this matter before taking further action. Major Gillette, Assistant Executive Officer of the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission, stated that the contract forms for this sculpture had been sent for execution to Mr. Fraser and also to Mr. Friedlander for his sculptural groups.

13. BOATHOUSE, TIDAL BASIN: Under date of February 5, 1931, the following letter was received from Mrs. Frank B. Noyes, Chairman of the Committee on the National Capital of the Garden Club of America, protesting against the boathouse at the Tidal Basin near the John Paul Jones Statue:

Dear Mr. Moore:

"Some time ago I asked if your Committee would recommend the removal of the storehouse for boats which has recently been erected on the Tidal Basin, to a more retired situation. Our Committee recommends for your consideration the vicinity of the railroad in the parking reservation before the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, if it is necessary to have such a structure. As the beauty of the cherry trees has become famous we feel the walk on the Tidal Basin should be unobstructed then or at any other season and made a beautiful promenade. The wall directly back of the statue of John Paul Jones was constructed with the idea I believe of boarding boats there and they might be tethered in that place for fishing or rowing during the summer season.

"I will appreciate your bringing this matter to the consideration of your committee."

Very sincerely,
(Signed) Janet T. Noyes
Chairman.

Mr. Moore stated that the Commission objected to the erection of the boathouse there, and when it was learned there was a real need for one along the Tidal Basin, the Commission suggested a portico for the side facing the water, but it was not built and the boathouse there today is rather an eyesore in the landscape.

The Commission considered the matter with Major Gillette, Assistant Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks, and the question of relocation

was gone over very carefully. Major Gillette said that a boathouse on the Tidal Basin is desirable because it is used so much by the Miniature Yacht Club as a storage place for their boats which they race on the basin. Major Gillette stated that one of the objectionable features of boating on the Tidal Basin is that the sea wall is so high as to make an easy landing almost impossible. Major Gillette said that because of this he has stopped boating on the Tidal Basin. A new location near the Inlet Bridge was suggested by the Commission.

The Commission called attention to the fact that with the completion of the Arlington Memorial Bridge there will be a great increase undoubtedly in river sports in this part of the city, including Columbia Island and the Virginia shore area adjacent to Little River, East Potomac Park and the Washington Channel.

14. GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL MEDAL: The Secretary brought to the attention of the Commission a letter (Exhibit K) received from Honorable Sol Bloom, Associate Director of the George Washington Bicentennial Commission, stating that the George Washington Bicentennial Commission had approved the selection of model No. 1, designed by Mrs. Laura Gardin Fraser, Sculptor, for the George Washington Bicentennial Medal, and had authorized her to proceed with the execution of the medal. It was understood that Mr. Weinman would bring to the attention of Mrs. Fraser certain suggestions as to minor changes in the design, and Mr. Weinman said he had done this.

15. STATE DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Because of the absence of Mr. Waddy Wood, Architect, from the city the question of considering studies he had made of the balustrade for the State Department Building was postponed until the next meeting of the Commission.

16. GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION BY WOODWARD AND LOTHROP:

The Secretary called attention to letters he had received from Messrs. Woodward and Lothrop, who conduct a department store at 11th and F Streets, N. W., of this city, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to an appropriate exhibition during the bicentennial year to illustrate events in the life of George Washington. Attention was called to photographs of the exhibition on the development of Washington which Woodward and Lothrop displayed a year ago. The Commission heartily endorsed the project and gave consideration to subjects for the show windows. It is expected that there will be 24 show windows made available that face the streets on the four sides of the square on which the department store is located. Mr. Winter 51 Madison Avenue, suggested consulting Dwight Franklin of New York City, expert in model making and "originator of miniature group type now in use in many museums".

The Commission submitted a list of twenty-two subjects to Messrs. Woodward and Lothrop to accompany a letter endorsing the project and offering to cooperate with them in carrying out the project. (Exhibit L)

17. ENTRANCES TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Col. Grant submitted a design based on the pylons of the Arlington Memorial Bridge at the Virginia end, which he offered as a type of design for markers at the leading entrances to the District of Columbia, a project in which the Garden Club of America is much interested and is raising funds for it so that this improvement can be brought about in time for the George Washington Bicentennial next year. These pylons are to have a height of $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet. It was suggested that the pylons be surmounted by an eagle 2'4" high. In all there will be 16 pylons, two at each of the eight important entrances to the District of Columbia. Col. Grant stated that they could be further reduced in size if that should be deemed

desirable. He said also that the Garden Club of America proposes to erect temporary pylons for the celebration next year although an estimate has been secured from Mr. Earley, Sculptor, of this city, that these pylons could be made for \$275 each in concrete.

The Commission, after consideration, approved the suggestion to take the pylon at the Virginia end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge as a type of design for entrances to the District of Columbia, according to the sketch submitted. The Commission urged that these pylons be made in permanent form, as this could be done with very little extra money and that in connection with their erection suitable planting be provided. The Commission recommended the use of white cement mixed with white marble aggregate and suggested that marble tips might be used instead of the eagle. The Commission further recommended that a small scale model of the pylon be submitted at a future meeting. A report was sent to Colonel Grant. (Exhibit M)

18. GENERAL RAWLINS STATUE: Col. Grant submitted a sketch prepared by Mr. W. L. Partridge, consulting architect, of his office, for the pedestal of the General Rawlins Statue to be relocated in Rawlins Square immediately south of the Interior Department Building. Col. Grant felt that the statue is quaint and that the pedestal was designed to harmonize with it and that he, therefore, would regret to see a very plain pedestal that might be considered a standard for 1931 used for a statue erected in 1880. Mr. Weinman suggested the omission of the lowest member of the pedestal, and indicated this change on a photograph of the statue and pedestal which was sent to Colonel Grant with the recommendation of the Commission that the statue be re-erected accordingly. (Exhibit N) It is understood that this block can be used as part of the foundation.

19. PAVING FOR THE ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: The Secretary submitted to the Commission samples of Kyrock (a black paving material) received from the

Kentucky Rock Asphalt Company, which desires this material to be used for the paving of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The representatives of the firm in submitting the sample had sent also illustrated booklets showing that this material is used in many parts of the United States as well as in a large number of cities and that it has been highly recommended as a paving material. Kyrock was used in Frankfort, Kentucky; Havana, Cuba; Chicago, Illinois; Miami, Florida; Asbury Park, N. J.; and on the Deland-Daytona Highway, Florida.

Major Gillette said that the representatives of the firm had also come to him suggesting the use of Kyrock, but he felt it is too porous for paving on the Memorial Bridge. If a porous paving were used, water which would run through would be unable to drain off and consequently would have a tendency to rot the material of the bridge. Attention was called to the material used in front of the White House, which is Amacite. Major Gillette said that this is a very good paving material but is also very porous as will be noticed from the fact that a few hours after a rain storm the pavement of the White House roadways are practically dry. Major Gillette felt that the paving that will finally be used for the bascule span will be the material for paving the rest of the bridge. He thought this would be thin sheet asphalt sprinkled with granite sand. The matter is to have further consideration at a future meeting.

20. FEDERAL WAREHOUSE: Colonel Grant submitted a model of the Federal Warehouse to be built south of the Mall in Southwest Washington immediately south of the railroad tracks. Only half of the building is to be built at present, which is to be erected on the square between C and D, 7th and 8th Streets, for which Congress has appropriated \$1,700,000. The design for the entire building had been considered by the architect members of the Commission, and Mr. Mauran

stated that they had agreed to accept scheme E, with certain modifications in the design. These suggested changes had been embodied in the revised design, including the model, submitted at the meeting.

Major Gillette said that the only possible modification in the general design of the building is in the spacing of the columns, which can be brought closer together. The spandrels are to be cast in iron. The warehouse is to be so constructed that when the other half is built, nothing will have to be torn out where the new building is joined. Major Gillette stated that due to limited funds, this warehouse has to be built for 20 cents a foot. A feature of the new building will be a driveway under the entire building, and because of the fact that the warehouse will be adjacent to the railroad tracks, the handling of supplies and equipment will be attended to expeditiously. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission now has the authority to close the streets on either side of the building, which will project about halfway into the street. Mr. Cross felt that the design of the warehouse as indicated by the model is quite good looking. After further consideration, the Commission approved the design.

The Federal Warehouse is to house the General Supply Committee of the Treasury Department with provision for the necessary offices, exhibition rooms of samples and the storage of materials. The building is to be 498 feet long (east and west) by 214 feet, 90 feet high with seven stories and a basement. It will be built of reinforced concrete. A report was sent to Colonel Grant, approving the design. (Exhibit O)

21. HOTEL ON MT. HOOD: Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Landscape Architect, in company with Major R. Y. Stuart, Chief of the Forest Service, and Mr. L. F. Kneipp, were in conference with the Commission regarding a proposed project to

erect a hotel on Mt. Hood, with also a cableway to the top of the mountain. Mr. Olmsted submitted a preliminary design of the hotel. The effect the design would have on the landscape was given particular attention in connection with the actual site for the hotel. Mr. Olmsted was preparing a report on the subject and said that when it is completed he will send it to the Forest Service. A copy of it is to be sent to the Commission of Fine Arts.

It is understood that this is a commercial venture but one that is looked forward to as being successful because of the beauty of Mt. Hood and the surrounding country. The Forest Service representatives submitted numerous illustrations of Mt. Hood and the locality.

The Commission expressed themselves favorably to the project and offered to give further advice in regard to the design of the hotel whenever submitted.

22. DEVELOPMENT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY: The Commission were in conference with President Cloyd Heck Marvin of George Washington University concerning a plan of development proposed by President Marvin for the university. This, he said, is now housed in a number of mostly small buildings in squares in and about 20th and G Streets, comprising 7 or 8 acres. It is Dr. Marvin's desire to develop a downtown university similar to London University and bring the development out to Pennsylvania Avenue northward, and westward to the Potomac River. The Commission raised the question whether this was the best plan for the future of the university, and Dr. Marvin said that he has been considering this matter very carefully and would not say at this time that the university absolutely will stay there. However, he cited the American University that has about 90 acres several miles north of the city and has established a college with only about 300 students. Also there is Catholic University, having several hundred acres in its campus but scarcely 500 students in the

college. On the other hand, George Washington University has 8,000 students and these, for the most part, go there because the university is easily accessible to them.

The project was discussed with Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, who Dr. Marvin said is to be their landscape architect. Dr. Marvin said he has in mind a Georgian or Colonial type of college buildings. He said that he was certain the necessary money could be secured by him for this development. There are already \$5,000,000 promised to him for an international school, which would draw students from many of the countries of the world. It is proposed to erect here an international club house for about \$700,000 and use the rest for branches in various foreign countries and the endowment of professorships.

The university trustees, he said, at the present time are having the problem of housing day students to contend with. The university is now in the class A group in all its departments and ranks among the very highest in its medical school and law school in this country.

Mr. Moore said he felt Dr. Marvin was bringing about a real improvement at this time by giving the buildings a distinct color. Dr. Marvin said that he felt that this was a decided improvement because whenever George Washington University was mentioned, no one seemed to know where it is located. The color selected--cream color--he took from the State Capitol at Richmond. The small buildings are to be gradually replaced by large college buildings, and Dr. Marvin said he deems it very desirable to have a real building plan for the institution.

The Commission commended Dr. Marvin for his efforts toward the development of George Washington University and expressed their willingness to cooperate with him.

23. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: Dr. Marvin as Chairman of the District of Columbia George Washington Bicentennial Commission stated that the local Commission is preparing plans for the celebration here in Washington and that it is proposed to carry out a program with appropriate pageants during the Bicentennial year 1932. He said that he has a committee of 32 members that meets at 8 o'clock in the morning every two weeks and at no meeting have more than four been absent. Dr. Marvin expressed his appreciation of the recent appointment of Mr. Moore as a member of the local Commission, which appointment Mr. Moore has accepted. Dr. Marvin recommended that Congress make available the \$100,000 needed for the celebration, and this amount has been granted by the Senate. It is thought the House of Representatives will concur in this matter.

24. LINCOLN MEMORIAL CHURCH: Rev. Joseph R. Sizoo, D. D., Pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, which is also known as the Lincoln Memorial Church, conferred with the Commission as to a plan he has in mind to make of his church a Lincoln Shrine. Dr. Sizoo said he has a large congregation both morning and evening and each week hundreds of visitors come to his church to see the pew where Abraham Lincoln worshiped.

The plan Dr. Sizoo proposes to develop is to restore the church building as it was in the time of Abraham Lincoln and bring the auditorium down to the first floor; also he proposes to acquire the rest of the triangle, on which the church is located, west to 14th Street and erect there a chapel and church office building and make of the place one of the most interesting and historical in Washington. Dr. Sizoo related the story of how he himself is intimately associated with this project. He said that when he was about five years of age, his father, an architect of Amsterdam, Holland, left with his family for

America to become a citizen of this country, and reached Chicago not knowing what the future had in store for him; that it so happened his father received employment in the Pullman Car shops of South Chicago and soon had the privilege of meeting Robert Lincoln, President of the Company. On coming to Washington, Dr. Sizoo had as one of his church members, Robert Lincoln, and at the death of Robert Lincoln, he had the honor of conducting the services for him. Thereupon, Mrs. Robert Lincoln gave a considerable sum to renovate the church and rebuild the tower, which was blown off many years ago, and place therein memorial chimes. The Lincoln family is thus much interested in the preservation of the church.

The Commission expressed deep interest in the project as proposed by Dr. Sizoo and suggested that the matter should be placed in the hands of a competent architect to lay out a scheme of development. The architect members of the Commission said they would give special consideration to the question of recommending an architect for this purpose.

The Commission adjourned at 5:30 p. m. The Commission had as their guests at luncheon: Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted, Major R. Y. Stuart, Mr. L. R. Kneipp, Major Gillette, President Cloyd Heck Marvin of the George Washington University, Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Winslow of the office of Public Buildings and Public Parks.

After luncheon the Commission inspected a model for the proposed treatment of the roadways in connection with the construction of the new P Street Bridge near Dupont Circle, and in its relation to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The Commission then made a trip to the site of the District of Columbia World War Memorial Bandstand south of the reflecting basin in Potomac Park, and thereupon drove to the P Street Bridge for inspection of the bridge and the adjacent area that is involved in the rearrangement of the roadways as was indicated in the model.

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Mr. Corbett

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, inspected the design you submitted for the proposed treatment of the Dean Tract so as to leave a triangular lot available for income-producing purposes and allow for a curved street to cut through between that plot and the Dean Tract itself from Florida Avenue to Connecticut Avenue, with space for a memorial wall on the side of the Dean Tract.

The Commission approved and commended the design. It is understood you will take up the matter further with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission at their next meeting and with the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for their approval of the project.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Harvey Wiley Corbett,
130 West 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

Kimball, Steele & Sandham
Architects
836 World-Herald Bldg.,
Omaha.

January 24, 1931.

Mr. T. W. Norcross,
Chief Engineer, Forest Service,
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We greatly appreciate the advice contained in your letter of January 19 and assure you of our continued interest and cooperation.

We hope that the suggestion of Congressman Leavitt will be so modified by the Art Commission that in some way the Memorial can be made dignified and impressive. The writer has in mind a Government Memorial erected some years ago between McCook, Nebraska, and Trenton, Nebraska, to commemorate the last battle between the Sioux and Pawnee Indians.

It might be interesting to you to look up the data on this as it might be helpful to the Congressman as well as the Commission. My impression is that it represents about as large a shaft as we can build for our appropriation. Unfortunately the effect of the monument as viewed from the highway is not happy. There is such an unbroken sweep of bare surroundings that the monument is dwarfed in comparison. The set-up is not dissimilar in this regard to ours.

The "ellipse" you speak of should be lengthened out as far with the direction of the highway as possible to avoid sharp or dangerous curves. In places like this on public roads there is always danger, especially in the winter time.

We are wondering also if a suggestion of giant twin boulders or twin pylons forming a sort of gateway would not be acceptable? This would keep the road straight and unbroken, a consideration which to us seems among those most important.

It seems worth considering also to think about the possibility of a huge boulder which could receive a very stunning and heavy bronze tablet in high relief and symbolically ornamental.

An appropriate design in such scale as would not have to compete with the vast distances and which could be worked out in a fine and generous way seems to us indicated by the failure to secure more funds.

Yours sincerely,
Kimball, Steele & Sandham
By Wm. L. Steele.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

February 16, 1931.

Dear Major Stuart:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, approved the preliminary design of an obelisk submitted by Messrs. Kimball, Steele and Sandham, Architects, of Omaha, for the Roosevelt Memorial to be erected at Marias Pass on the Continental Divide in Montana, with the understanding that the design will be further studied in detail.

In this connection the Commission call attention to the obelisk that was erected some years ago at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the opening of St. Mary's Canal. A print of this obelisk is enclosed. The proportions are those of the Egyptian obelisk in Central Park, the height being, as usual in Egyptian obelisks, ten times the base. These proportions were followed in the Washington Monument.

The question of landscape treatment was carefully considered by the Commission. The Commission favor a circle instead of an ellipse, with planting.

If a drinking fountain shall be erected it should be quite incidental. The Commission understand that this monument will be erected at a cost not to exceed \$25,000. The Commission desire your suggestions as to materials.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major R. Y. Stuart, Chief Forester,

Forest Service,

Department of Agriculture,

Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B-1

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Major Price:

The Commission of Fine Arts were pleased to consider at their meeting on February 12, 1931, the photographs submitted with your letter of February 11, of the sketch model made by Mr. A. A. Weinman, sculptor, for the statue which is to surmount the World War Memorial at Montfaucon, France. The Commission approved the model.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major A. H. Price, Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Dr. Burgess:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, considered the design submitted in your behalf by Mr. William I. Deming, Architect, for the hydraulic laboratory to be erected on the south slope of the grounds of the Bureau of Standards, facing Milden Street.

The Commission approved the design with the suggestion that the entrance on Milden Street be not emphasized, but be carried right through in the brick without change in color as agreed with Mr. Deming.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. George K. Burgess, Director,
Bureau of Standards,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

February 16, 1931.

Dear Miss Eldredge:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, approved the recommendation of your committee that Dr. Tait McKenzie, Sculptor, be commissioned to design the Jane A. Delano Memorial to be erected on the grounds of the American Red Cross in Washington.

It is understood that Dr. McKenzie will now confer with the architects, Trowbridge and Livingston, and their landscape architect as to the exact location of the memorial and the preparation of a landscape plan to accompany it.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Miss Adda Eldredge, Chairman,
Delano Memorial Committee,
c/o The American Red Cross,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

February 16, 1931.

Dear Mr. Brooke:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, approved your suggestion that the names of the District of Columbia soldiers who lost their lives in the World War be placed on the base of the Memorial Bandstand. It is understood that you will give further attention to the question of acoustics of the memorial. The Commission understand that a landscape plan will be prepared in cooperation with the office of Public Buildings and Public Parks. The object is to secure shade for the audience and space for seats by the arrangement of the trees.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Frederick H. Brooke,
1218 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

February 12, 1931.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved the working model, including pedestal, of the Leif Ericsson Statue, which is being executed by Mr. A. Stirling Calder, Sculptor, as a gift of the United States Government to Iceland.

Photographs of the model are sent to you herewith and also a set of drawings of the pedestal.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Mr. Jennewein:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, approved the design for the Armillary Sphere to be erected in Meridian Hill Park.

The Commission were pleased with the design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. C. Paul Jennewein,

538 Van Nest Avenue,

Bronx, New York.

EXHIBIT H

C O P Y

February 24, 1931.

My dear Sir:

Harvard University has placed at the disposal of the National Commission of Fine Arts \$50,000 to erect in this city and furnish the landscape setting for the statue of General Artemas Ward, who at Cambridge, Massachusetts, turned over the command of the Continental Army to George Washington.

General Ward had a long army service under Colonial governors and a distinguished career during and after the American Revolution. The idea is to prepare a typical Revolutionary General rather than a portrait statue. The tentative location assigned in Washington calls for an interesting silhouette since the statue will be seen from four sides. It will face the east.

It is proposed by the National Commission of Fine Arts to hold the competition in two stages, the first stage will involve the selection of three sculptors chosen after consideration of photographs of their executed work; the second stage will involve plastic sketches, for which the sum of \$500 will be paid to each of the three sculptors. This sum will be deducted from the commission to the successful competitor.

The National Commission of Fine Arts invite you to send photographs of your executed work for consideration in connection with the production of this statue. The invitation to compete has been extended to the sculptors named on the accompanying list. Photographs should be received here not later than March 18, 1931.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) H. P. Caemmerer,
Executive Secretary
and Administrative Officer.

EXHIBIT I

LIST OF SCULPTORS TO BE INVITED TO SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHS OF
THEIR EXECUTED MONUMENTAL WORKS

Charles Eugene Tefft,
R. F. D. No. 3,
Guilford, Maine

Leonard Crunelle,
6016 Ingleside Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

Albin Polasek,
4 East Ohio Street,
Chicago, Illinois

Maxwell Miller,
1335 Greenmount Avenue,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Victor S. Holm,
School of Fine Arts,
Washington University,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Wheeler Williams,
c/o Yale Club,
New York, N. Y.

Berthold Nebel,
Bible House,
New York, N. Y.

Daniel L. Rumsey,
133 Chapin Parkway,
Buffalo, New York.

Edmond Amateis,
15 West 29th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Walker Hancock,
207 East 17th Street,
New York, N. Y.

COPY FOR MR. MOORE

February 9, 1931.

Mr. Robert A. Taft,
Dixie Terminal Bld.,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Taft;

Under separate cover I am sending a photograph of the photographic trials which we made at Arlington Cemetery. Mrs. Taft and your sister, Mrs. Manning came out to see the enlarged photograph in place, and, undoubtedly you have heard from them about it. I thought they seemed to be quite favorably impressed, although a photograph of a photograph is not as fine as the real thing, but it gives more or less of an idea of how it will work out eventually. I felt that with some changes in the scale of the monument it would be particularly appropriate, and entirely different from the surrounding things, and yet not out of key.

My estimate is based on Stony Creek granite, which is particularly beautiful in a setting of rich foliage, and it was the hope of the Commission of Fine Arts that everything in the neighborhood of the Bridge entrance could be kept in the same tone. The granite has warmth and beautiful color and is of a most durable nature. It would last thousands of years where marble in this climate disintegrates within a hundred years. My estimate for the total work, architect's fees, granite carving, work of modeling and designing, and the setting in place, is \$10,000.

This does not include planting. I have indicated on the photograph which you will receive an arrangement for planting. I think something in this character would work out well. Any planting would come after the monument is placed, and careful consideration given to it.

If you are satisfied with this arrangement, would you please let me know as soon as possible?

Sincerely yours

signed.

J. E. Fraser

United States Commission for the Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington

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1932

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

LT. COL. U. S. GRANT, 3d REPRESENTATIVE SOL BLOOM

February 7, 1931

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE SENATE AND HOUSE COMMISSIONERS
C. BASCOM SLEMP
MRS. ANTHONY WAYNE COOK
BERNARD M. BARUCH

HISTORIAN

PROF. ALBERT BUSHNELL HART

WASHINGTON BUILDING,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Subject: Committee on Medals

My dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I am enclosing herewith a
copy of a letter which we sent to Mrs. Fraser.

Sincerely yours,

Sol Bloom

Sol Bloom
Associate Director

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary
Fine Arts Commission
Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

SB/F

February 7, 1931

Committee on Medals

Dear Mrs. Fraser:

I am pleased to inform you that the George Washington Bicentennial Commission has approved the design submitted by you, Numbered One, for a George Washington Bicentennial Medal, as recommended by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Committee on Sculpture. You are therefore authorized to proceed with the execution of the medal.

It is understood that the Committee on Sculpture have a few suggestions to make to you with reference to the completion of the final models. These will be brought to your attention by Mr. A. A. Weinman, Chairman of the Committee on Sculpture.

Respectfully yours,

Sol Bloom
Associate Director

Mrs. Laura Gardin Fraser,
328 East 82nd Street
New York City

MB/V

C O P Y

February 17, 1931.

Dear Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, considered your suggestion to make in your show windows during 1932 a display of models appropriate to the George Washington Bicentennial. The members of the Commission recall the very interesting and instructive models recently exhibited by you, and anticipate an equal success next year.

The Commission will be glad to cooperate with you, as you request. A tentative list of subjects is suggested, subject to such changes as further consideration may make desirable.

The Commission will discuss the project with your representative.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Advertising Department,
Woodward & Lothrop,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, inspected the sketch submitted by you for the architectural treatment of the leading entrances to the District of Columbia, using as a type the pylon surmounted by an eagle at the Virginia end of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The Commission approved the sketch subject to such further modifications as may be made in matters of detail.

The Commission recognize this as a project in which the Garden Club of America is interested, and recommend that, instead of providing for pylons of a temporary nature, sufficient funds be made available so that there can be permanent markers at the leading entrances of the District of Columbia.

As for material to be used, the Commission suggest a mixture of white cement and white marble aggregate. Instead of eagles, white marble tips might be used.

The Commission would be pleased to inspect a small scale model of the proposed pylons at a future meeting.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

C O P Y

February 25, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, inspected a sketch for the treatment of the pedestal for the statue of General Rawlins which is to be re-erected in Rawlins Square, south of the Interior Department Building.

The Commission recommend that the lowest member of the pedestal be left out or sunken so as to lower the statue. It is understood that this block can be used as part of the foundation. A print is enclosed indicating this.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks
of the National Capital,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT N

C O P Y

February 14, 1931.

Dear Colonel Grant:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on February 12, 1931, approved the design submitted for the Federal Warehouse to be erected south of the Mall at the site proposed for it in the Southwest section of the city.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director,
Public Buildings and Public Parks,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT O

